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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Pierre PICCALUGA

Application No.: 09/462,355



ATTN: PCT
Refund Section
Accounting Div.
Office of Finance

Docket No.: 32143-156903

Filed: January 7, 2000

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR FORMATTING A DIGITAL AUDIO SIGNAL TO BE
USED FOR SOUND REPRODUCTION

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REQUEST FOR REFUND TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Attached hereto is a Statement Claiming Small Entity Status under 37 CFR §1.27 relating to the above-referenced application. The present application was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark on January 7, 2000, with large entity filing fees paid at that time. Applicant submits the Statement Claiming Small Entity Status within the standard two-month period from the filing date..

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that \$485.00 (half of the large entity fee of \$970.00) be credited to Deposit Account No. 22-0261 and that the Patent Office acknowledge this credit in writing to the under-signed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marina V. Schneller".

Marina V. Schneller
Registration No. 26,032

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Date: March 1, 2000

Applicant or Patentee: Pierre PICCALUGA
Serial or Patent No.: _____
Filed or Issued: _____
For: _____

Attorney Docket No.: 32143-156903

METHOD AND DEVICE FOR FORMATTING A DIGITAL AUDIO
SIGNAL TO BE USED FOR SOUND REPRODUCTION
STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b))-INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

As a below named inventor, I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c), for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled:

METHOD AND DEVICE FOR FORMATTING A DIGITAL AUDIO SIGNAL TO BE USED FOR
SOUND REPRODUCTION

described in:

the specification filed herewith.
 application serial no. 09/462,355, filed January 7, 2000
 patent no. _____, issued _____

I have not assigned, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

no such person, concern, or organization.
 persons, concerns or organizations listed below: *

NOTE: Separate statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention according to their status as small entities (37 CFR 1.27).

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

INDIVIDUAL SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

INDIVIDUAL SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

INDIVIDUAL SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

Pierre PICCALUGA

Date

08.02.2000